



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Montana State Office

222 North 32nd Street

P.O. Box 36800

Billings, Montana 59107-6800

IN REPLY TO:

NDM 1484

SDR No. 922-97-03

3165.3 (922.J)

DEC 18 1996

CERTIFIED--RETURN RECEIPT REQUESTED Z 205 996 899

Mike S. Heathington
Great Western Drilling Co.
P.O. Box 1659
Midland, Texas 79702

Dear Mr. Heathington:

Great Western Drilling Co. (Great Western) requested a State Director Review (SDR) of a November 15, 1996, Decision by the Dakotas District Office (DDO) requiring Great Western to submit its plans to plug the Federal 7-13 well, pursuant to the regulations at 43 CFR 3107.2-2. The SDR request was timely received in this office on December 9, 1996.

In its request, Great Western provided only a copy of an assignment of its interest in the Federal 7-13 well to Enterprise Energy, Inc. (Enterprise), as of September 3, 1993. We contacted you on December 11 and 12, 1996, to discuss your rationale for requesting the SDR. We were told that one of your purposes was to gain some time in trying to get Enterprise to live up to its responsibilities. You do acknowledge Great Western's ultimate obligation to plug the well if the operator defaults.

We believe that this makes the need for an SDR moot. We request that, as soon as possible after receipt of this letter, you contact the DDO to establish a schedule for plugging the Federal 7-13 well.

If you have any questions, please contact Jay Spielman, at (406) 255-2859.

Sincerely,

Thomas P. Lonnie
Deputy State Director
Division of Resources

cc:
DM, Dakotas District

922:JSpielman:rkd:12/17/96:x2859:Greatwes.Ltr



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